

Alaska

Wood Preservatives

Supplemental Information



Category Thirteen

In general, applicators who apply pesticides to property other than their own, or act as a pesticide consultant must obtain certification from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) Pesticide Program. Applicators who apply restricted-use pesticides, regardless of location, must also be certified.

Applicators who apply wood preservative pesticides must be certified by the ADEC in the Wood Preservatives Category. Many wood and lumber products can be purchased with wood preservatives already impregnated in the wood through a pressure treatment process. However, sometimes untreated wood may need to have wood preservatives applied. Many chemical pest controls to reduce deterioration of fence posts, electrical poles, railroad ties, bridge supports, or other wood products are restricted-use pesticides, which warrant additional care.

The information needed to successfully complete the written core examination required for all certified pesticide applicators in Alaska includes:

1. National Pesticide Applicator Certification Core Manual;
2. Alaska Core Manual Supplement; and
3. State of Alaska Pesticide Regulations in Title 18, Chapter 90 of the Alaska Administrative Code (18 AAC 90)

The information needed to successfully obtain certification in Category Four in Alaska includes:

1. This Alaska Supplemental Manual; and
2. The Oregon State University *Wood Preservation and Wood Products Treatment Training Manual*.

Learning Objectives

In order to be able to pass the Category Thirteen exam, you must be able to meet the following objectives:

Fungus

- Describe the difference between sapwood and heartwood.
- List the four conditions that determine rate of wood decay.
- State the temperatures that promote the growth of wood-inhabiting fungus.
- State the humidity levels that promote the growth of wood-inhabiting fungus.
- List the two major groups or types of wood-inhabiting fungus.
- List the three major groups or types of wood-destroying fungus.
- Describe the symptoms of brown rot fungus.
- Describe the symptoms of white rot fungus.
- Name which type of fungus is more common in softwoods, and which is more common in hardwoods.
- Describe the best method to prevent damage once decay fungus has become established.
- Explain why surface molds can lead to decay fungus.
- Describe the human health problems caused by surface molds.
- List two methods to control surface mold.

Insect Pests

- Describe at least one sign of a carpenter ant, powder post beetle, and anobiid beetle infestation in wood.

Chemical Controls

- List at least three common wood preservative active ingredients that are general-use pesticides.
- List three wood preservatives that are restricted use pesticides.
- Explain which wood preservative products are appropriate for indoor applications.
- List the wood preservatives that are corrosive to steel.
- Explain the primary environmental concern related to pentachlorophenol.
- For pentachlorophenol, describe
 - Its persistence in soil and water
 - Its leachability
 - The likelihood of bioaccumulation.
- List the primary human health concern related to use of arsenicals.
- List the primary environmental concern related to the use of copper based preservatives.
- List the primary health concern related to use of creosote.
- Explain why creosote cannot be used in residential applications.
- List the acute and chronic toxic health effects that can result from exposure to pentachlorophenol.
- List the PPE requirements for applying pentachlorophenol.
- List the acute and chronic toxic health effects that can result from exposure to inorganic arsenicals.
- Explain a disadvantage of amine copper.
- Explain a disadvantage of copper naphthenate.
- List disadvantages of borates.

PORTIONS OF THE OREGON MANUAL TO DISREGARD

You may disregard the following sections or pages of the Oregon manual, as they do not apply in Alaska:

- **Page 5**, information on termites. These pests do not occur in Alaska.
- **Page 6**, information on marine borers. While these pests do occur in Alaska, applicators of marine anti-fouling pesticides must be certified under Category 5.

Before Using Any Pesticide

STOP

**All pesticides can be harmful to health
and environment if misused.**

**Read the label
carefully. Use only
as directed.**